

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention comprises a method for rapid detection of at least a first carbohydrate in a carbohydrate-containing sample molecule comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) retaining the sample molecule on a region of one liquid permeable reaction membrane,
- (b) flowing a solution of first lectin, capable of binding the first carbohydrate, through the one reaction membrane to bind the first lectin to the retained first carbohydrate, the lectin being directly conjugated to a label prior to binding to the carbohydrate or being  
10 bound to a labeled separate molecule only after the first lectin has been bound to the carbohydrate, and
- (c) thereafter, detecting the label bound on the one reaction membrane, indicating the presence of the first carbohydrate.